

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 14-16 and 19 have been amended. Claims 2, 7, 12, 13 and 20 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11 and 14-19 are pending and under consideration.

CLAIM REJECTION – DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 1-20 were provisionally rejected under non-statutory obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-12 of copending Application No. 10/695,950. As this rejection is provisional, it is respectfully requested the rejection be held in abeyance until the present application is otherwise in a condition for allowance.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 103

Claims 1, 5, 6, 10-12 and 14-19 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over the admitted prior art in view of Isaksson et al. (US 2002/0126768).

Independent claims 1, 5, 11 and 19 have been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claims 2, 7, 13 and 20, respectively, and are therefore believed to now be in a condition for allowance. Claim 12 has been cancelled. Claims 6, 10 and 14-19 are dependent on one of claims 5 and 11, respectively, and are therefore believed to be allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that claims 2-4, 7-9, 13 and 20 appear to have been found to contain allowable subject matter as indicated on page 4, numbered paragraph 6 of the Office Action. Claims 2, 7, 13 and 20 have been cancelled. It is respectfully submitted that claims 3, 4, 8 and 9 are allowable in their present form.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: March 27, 2007

By: Gregory W. Harper
Gregory W. Harper
Registration No. 55,248

1201 New York Avenue, NW, 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501